

## **Michigan State Agency Status Report #5 On Hurricane Katrina EMAC and Energy Emergency**

This report provides a cumulative summary of the major activities that have occurred regarding the State of Michigan's response to the Hurricane Katrina relief effort during the period from Friday, September 2 through Friday, September 9 as of 12:00 PM. This report includes those activities and efforts that have been coordinated through the State Emergency Operations Center.

**September 9, 2005**

### **SITUATION OVERVIEW:**

**Hurricane Impacts.** On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall from the Gulf of Mexico as a Category 4 Hurricane with maximum sustained winds near 135 miles per hour. The hurricane was very large with hurricane force winds extending 125 miles from the center. The storm had severe impacts on the Gulf States of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida, as well as some inland states such as Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky, before finally dissipating.

Storm surge flooding, direct impacts from winds and rain, failed infrastructure including utilities, failed dike segments and resultant flooding has caused widespread displacement, loss of life, property, and services. Flooding is as much as 20 feet above normal tide levels, with runoff causing levels to worsen over several days, even after the hurricane had passed. Although flood levels are no longer worsening, public health and safety concerns have continued to increase.

**Supplementing Resources through the EMAC.** The affected states are part of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) and thus are able to request assistance from other states, including Michigan, that are a part of the compact. This compact, coordinated at the national level by the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), provides the most organized, responsible, and coordinated, and effective means for providing resources and assistance of all types to the affected states, and localities within them. The EMAC was ratified during the second session of the 104<sup>th</sup> Congress and became Public Law 104-321 in October of 1996. (In January 2001, Michigan became the 43<sup>rd</sup> state to join the EMAC.)

Individuals who wish to assist in disaster response and recovery activities are, at this time, advised to make a contribution in the form of a monetary donation. Financial assistance has been identified as the most effective, efficient, organized and appropriate type of assistance that can be provided at this time. Information about contributions can be found at the Michigan government web site at <http://www.michigan.gov/>, and at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

**Individuals and organizations are currently advised NOT to self-deploy to the areas affected by the disaster events. This is because such assistance needs to be organized to coordinate effectively with agencies and efforts that are already under way in those areas. Many of the response activities in and near the disaster areas require extensive training and health-related preparations. It is important that current efforts not be unduly diverted or distracted by efforts to accommodate any unauthorized or unrequested personnel who may not have not been sufficiently prepared, trained, and coordinated with existing response frameworks.**

**INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN MICHIGAN THAT WISH TO VOLUNTEER AND/OR GIVE SUPPLIES AND OTHER ASSISTANCE SHOULD CALL MICHIGAN'S "HURRICANE HOTLINE" AT 1-888-535-6136.**

**Michigan's Response through the EMAC.** The State of Michigan has identified resources and types of assistance that can be provided to affected states through the EMAC, some of which are already being deployed to the requesting states. To date, 252 personnel and/or equipment broadcasts have been submitted through the EMAC system nationwide. Michigan has received 68 of those requests. Out of those requests, 10 have been deployed and 1 of them has been satisfied. Michigan has also prepared, and continues to prepare, various resources to accommodate evacuees from the affected areas.

**Michigan's Plan for Evacuees.** One of the primary efforts has been the development of the "Michigan Relocation Plan for Hurricane Katrina Evacuees," a nine-page document that provides a multi-phase framework for Michigan to receive, transition, and aid in permanently establishing evacuees from New Orleans and other affected areas. The plan covers the gamut of human service and logistical issues associated with the staging and permanent placement of evacuees coming into Michigan. The plan was developed by the Emergency Management Division of the Michigan State Police, with assistance provided by a number of state agencies within the State Emergency Operations Center in Lansing. Through this plan, the State of Michigan has identified temporary housing for several thousand evacuees using facilities such as the Fort Custer National Guard Training Facility near Battle Creek (up to 1,000 evacuees maximum at one time) and the National Guard's Camp Grayling (up to 5,000 evacuees maximum at one time). This plan continues to be revised as the situational circumstances change.

On September 5, two planes carrying 289 evacuees landed at the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base and the evacuees were then transported to the nearby Fort Custer Training Facility for temporary shelter and further care and processing. Other evacuees have been transported to Michigan by bus and private automobile. Currently, there are more than 500 evacuees in Michigan. Most are at Fort Custer, but others are being temporarily sheltered at several hotels in the metro Detroit area and at facilities in Grand Rapids and Battle Creek. These evacuees will be placed in temporary housing in several cities across the state over the next several days. At this point, the State of Michigan does not know the exact number of evacuees that will be coming to the state. Governor Granholm has pledged to accept up to 10,000 evacuees, but the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is still working with other states to determine an acceptable evacuee allocation. It may be several days before Michigan knows exactly how many evacuees it can expect to receive.

**Energy Issues.** In addition, the significance of the Gulf of Mexico region to the energy sectors of the national economy has affected the supply and pricing of fuel throughout the country. Because of the vital need for maintaining an adequate supply of such resources, especially to support emergency response and recovery needs, Governor Jennifer Granholm has issued executive orders stemming from a declared state of energy emergency. These executive orders promote the availability and effective use of a continued supply of energy in Michigan (see "Office of the Governor" section below for details).

#### **STATE OF MICHIGAN ACTIONS:**

To date, the following major actions have been taken by Michigan state agencies in providing assistance to the Hurricane Katrina relief effort, addressing the influx of hurricane evacuees to Michigan, and/or addressing the other major impacts of the hurricane on Michigan. (All relief actions, where appropriate, have been under the umbrella of the national EMAC).

### **Office of the Governor**

- *Organizing and Coordinating.* Governor Granholm has been active in coordinating the actions of Michigan state agencies in identifying and allocating resources to assist the hurricane-ravaged areas. In addition, Governor Granholm has helped to organize public, private, and nonprofit assistance and volunteer activities to support both the affected areas and the needs of evacuees from those areas that will be housed in Michigan.
- *State Emergency Operations Center.* Governor Granholm activated the State Emergency Operations Center (SOEC) in Lansing at 8:30 AM on Friday, September 2, 2005 to coordinate information and activities among all state agencies as well as other agencies and organizations that they work with. The SEOC continues to operate from 8:00 AM until approximately 8:00 PM, seven days a week. Most of Michigan's state agencies have representatives present in the SEOC and are actively working on the hurricane relief effort.
- *National Guard Deployment.* Governor Granholm has ordered the deployment of over 600 Michigan National Guard troops to the affected areas to aid in relief efforts.
- *State of Disaster Declaration.* On September 4, Governor Granholm issued a "state of disaster" declaration for Michigan under 1976 PA 390, via Executive Order 2005-21. This action was necessary in order to activate pertinent sections of the Michigan Emergency Management Plan and to enable Michigan to continue providing mutual aid and other state assets to the hurricane relief effort.
- *Federal Declaration Request.* On September 4, Governor Granholm submitted a formal request to President Bush for a federal emergency or major disaster declaration under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 93-288, as amended) to provide assistance to Michigan to deal with the effects of Hurricane Katrina. Governor Granholm's letter of request to the President was submitted through the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region V office in Chicago, Illinois, per standard procedure. In her letter, Governor Granholm specifically requested "Category B / Emergency Protective Measures" assistance under the federal Public Assistance Grant Program and direct federal assistance under other appropriate authorities.

**IMPORTANT UPDATE:** On September 7, the President approved federal emergency declaration 3225-EM for the State of Michigan, authorizing the provision of Public Assistance Category B (Emergency Protective Measures) and other direct federal assistance, at 100 percent federal funding. The incident period for the declaration began on August 29, 2005 and continues. This assistance is available for all 83 counties in the State of Michigan. The State of Michigan is currently working to develop incident-specific guidance that will outline eligible costs, eligible applicants, and the process to be followed in applying for assistance. This information will be issued statewide to all local emergency management programs, state agencies, Indian Tribes, and eligible private nonprofit organizations in the near future.

- *Energy Emergency.* On August 31, Governor Granholm issued three executive orders to address energy related issues in Michigan caused by Hurricane Katrina. Executive Order 2005-16 declared a "State of Energy Emergency" in Michigan in accordance with 1982 PA 191. The State of Energy Emergency remains in effect until November 29, 2005 unless terminated earlier by the Governor. Executive Order 2005-17 temporarily waived regulations relating to motor carriers and drivers transporting gasoline, diesel fuel, and jet fuel. Executive Order 2005-18 provided for a temporary suspension of rules for gasoline vapor pressure (for the duration of the State of Energy Emergency).

- *Statewide Funding Appeal.* A unique fundraising event called “Michigan Cares, Michigan Gives,” is being aired today, Friday September 9, on all commercial and noncommercial radio and television stations. The event is designed to enlist media and celebrity support for efforts to collect funds for use in disaster response and recovery efforts. The event is connected with a toll-free number, 1-800-HELP-NOW, which can be used to make contributions. The Michigan Division of the American Red Cross is a key organization that uses contributions for disaster relief and recovery.
- *Temporary Suspension of Bottled Water Restrictions.* On September 7, Governor Granholm issued executive directive 2005-8. This directive temporarily lifts restrictions on the delivery and sale of water bottled in Michigan outside of the Great Lakes Basin in order to assist with hurricane relief efforts.

#### **Department of Agriculture**

- The department continues to examine and monitor the state’s gasoline supply inventory.
- The department has veterinarians that are coordinating with the Michigan State Police and Department of Human Services on animal issues in the affected areas and for evacuees in Michigan. The department is also working with the Michigan Veterinary Association on animal issues.
- The department can provide laboratory assistance with food and water testing for the affected areas.
- The department is identifying veterinarians to assist with animal disease issues.
- The department has a veterinarian emergency response trailer available if needed.
- In response to an EMAC request, the Department of Agriculture has provided the names of available food sanitation experts. None have been deployed at this time.

#### **Department of Attorney General**

- The department has been working on investigations of gas gouging complaints.
- The department can support other state agencies in researching issues of legality and liability, as relief and recovery actions are undertaken.

#### **Department of Civil Rights**

- The department notes that there is intense media scrutiny and much speculation about events related to the disaster, some of which should deal more sensitively with the issues of equity and anxiety that surround these events. (For example, it is inappropriate for U. S. citizens affected by a natural disaster to be called “refugees,” as some media outlets have done. Evacuee is the most accurate term.)
- The department is preparing to provide sensitivity training to personnel who will interact with evacuees relocated to Michigan.

#### **Department of Civil Service**

- Provisions will be in place for state employees whose skills are requested by affected states, so that if they go to assist in relief and recovery activities, they can be provided with pay and other compensation that normally correspond to such duties as part of government service. In the case of employees who may volunteer for service outside of their paid government duties, school and community leave time may be used but leave time should be cleared to ensure that no gap in services is created by employee disaster activities.

- The initial assessment regarding the financing of these arrangements indicates that employee pay may include overtime for disaster-related work, and that employee compensation for such duties will be paid by the State of Michigan. The State of Michigan will be reimbursed by the state(s) requesting the assistance, which will in turn be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Overtime requests may need to be cleared by the Department of Civil Service. Military leave may also be processed for documented disaster relief efforts.

### **Department of Community Health**

- The department has a roster of available volunteers ready to help both the disaster area states and the states that are recipients for evacuees.
- The department has coordinated with the Michigan Hospital Association (MHA), and Michigan hospitals will be able to take some patients from the disaster areas. Laboratory work can also be performed to assist the affected states. The department is also coordinating with the MHA to identify volunteer medical and nursing personnel and is preparing for possible immunization issues.
- The department stresses that persons preparing to assist in hurricane relief efforts need to ensure that their tetanus, diphtheria, and hepatitis B vaccines are up-to-date.
- The DCH is operating the Michigan Hurricane Hotline with 8 operators from 7:00 AM – 12:00 AM (midnight). The hotline is taking information about goods and services donations available for hurricane relief.
- The department coordinated the mobilization of EMS resources by FEMA through the American Ambulance Association.
- The department has worked with the MSP planning team to identify DCH issues for Phase I and Phase II of evacuee arrival in Michigan.
- The department is delivering the message that the State of Michigan will honor any out-of-state Medicaid cards.
- The department's Office of Public Health Preparedness has been working closely with their partners across the state to meet the possible need for additional healthcare personnel. The Michigan Health and Hospital Association (MHHA) have been meeting daily with OPHP State Health Operations Center (SHOC) staff to maintain open communications of the initiatives that are being coordinated between the federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the American Hospital Association (AHA). This includes collection of medical and health volunteers to populate the AHA website. In addition, volunteers are being directed to the HHS healthcare registry <https://volunteer.ccrf.hhs.gov>.
- County public health teams are preparing or providing assistance to support evacuees in all communities with health related needs and planning, including immunization. All of these activities are coordinated with the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC).
- The department stresses the importance of the following information from an American Public Health Services Administration memo dated 9/7/2005: "Federal Medicaid officials are also working with state Medicaid agencies to coordinate resolution of interstate payment agreements for recipients who are served outside their home states. HHS indicated that it will offer the following relief immediately:
  - Health care providers that furnish medical services in good faith, but who cannot comply with normal program requirements because of Hurricane Katrina, will be paid for services provided and will be exempt from sanctions for noncompliance, unless it is discovered that fraud or abuse occurred.

- Crisis services provided to Medicare and Medicaid patients who have been transferred to facilities not certified to participate in the programs will be paid.
- Normal prior authorization and out-of-network requirements also will be waived for enrollees of Medicaid, SCHIP managed care plans, or Medicare.
- Certain HIPAA privacy requirements will be waived so that health care providers can talk to family members about a patient's condition even if that patient is unable to grant that permission to the provider (see separate section on HIPAA below).
- Hospitals and other facilities can be flexible in billing for beds that have been dedicated to other uses, for example, if a psychiatric unit bed is used for an acute care patient admitted during the crisis."
- Additional information for evacuees and providers may be found on the CMS website, [www.cms.hhs.gov](http://www.cms.hhs.gov).

#### **Department of Corrections**

- The department has identified two vacant prison facilities and a youth correctional facility that can be used to provide housing should such special needs be requested. There is also a "prison-built" program that can be used to provide for the construction of homes, structures, walls, etc.
- The department is providing bedding for evacuees at Fort Custer.

#### **Department of Education**

- The department has sent notification to all superintendents throughout the state to facilitate the provision of educational services to any evacuees in need of them. Issues to be addressed include state aid for some students, the waiver of immunization requirements (in cases where documentation of immunization has been destroyed in the disaster), and any issues of anxiety that may be expressed about these provisions. (For example, student testing and results comparison can be adjusted so that any difference in performance by new students will not count for that first year in the new school.)
- The department has identified 166 school buses that can be made available for temporary use in transporting evacuees and for other relief and recovery activities.
- The department reports that 19,323 classroom slots are currently available for evacuees. Twenty seven (27) student evacuees are currently enrolled in Michigan districts.
- For the purposes of provision of educational services, evacuees are considered to be homeless under federal law.
- Student evacuees will have to take the MEAP test.
- The Michigan Schools for the Deaf and Blind will be receiving blind students from Louisiana.

#### **Department of Environmental Quality**

- The department has identified air and water quality specialists who are available to provide assistance to affected states as needed.

#### **Department of History, Arts and Libraries**

- If needed, the department can provide assistance to the affected areas in the preservation and conservation of cultural resources, including records management and archival services.

### **Department of Human Services**

- The department is cataloguing available housing options to ensure that housing is available for evacuees who have already arrived in Michigan. The department is working closely with the faith community as well to identify housing and services.
- Health / human services and education services are being coordinated to ensure that children can be accepted into schools and that citizens have access to needed services.
- The department will expedite food assistance / food stamp rules for evacuees.
- Interested parties can contact their local Department of Human Services offices to inquire about coordinating their donated time and resources with disaster response efforts and the housing and serving of evacuees. If information about local office locations is needed, the general department number can be used (517-373-2035).

#### *Department of Human Services Support at Fort Custer:*

- Calhoun County DHS staff met with evacuees that arrived at Battle Creek Air National Guard Base on two planes on Monday, September 5. The DHS staff accompanied the evacuees during orientation meetings and initial processing.
- Calhoun County DHS staff began interviewing evacuees early Tuesday morning (September 6) and continue with those efforts.
- DHS staff is coordinating with other state agencies (i.e., Military and Veterans Affairs; Transportation) and the American Red Cross in the provision of needed services for the evacuees, and to clarify roles and responsibilities.
- It was discovered that many evacuees did not want to remain in Michigan and had the resources to leave provided they could get to a bus terminal, train station or airport. The DHS devised procedures (in coordination with other involved agencies) to arrange transportation for these individuals.
- The DHS anticipates that housing assignments will begin late today or Friday.

#### **IMPORTANT UPDATE REGARDING FEDERAL ASSISTANCE FOR EVACUEES:**

On September 8, the Emergency Management Division of the Department of State Police issued a press release, urging evacuees in Michigan to call FEMA's toll free telephone number (1-800-621-3362) to apply for any federal disaster assistance for which they may be entitled. The press release also indicated that evacuees can go to the local Department of Human Service (DHS) office for immediate assistance from local and state agencies and human service organizations in Michigan. In addition FEMA has published a contact number (1-800-507-4571) for Hurricane Katrina victims with VA Benefits to get immediate assistance.

### **Department of Information Technology**

- A web page for disaster assistance and contributions has been established by the department on the Michigan government web site (at <http://www.michigan.gov>).
- The department has personnel and resources available to assist affected states in establishing information systems, establishing call centers, providing technical support, etc., as needed and requested.
- The department advises citizens and officials to be aware of the possibility of fraudulent or false web sites that may be exploiting citizen efforts for personal gain or otherwise misleading citizens away from the legitimate agencies that are providing disaster relief. The Michigan government website includes a list of recognized relief organizations that can be contacted for disaster-related contributions and donations.

- The department resolved issues pertaining to GroupWise to ensure continued information flow for the SEOC and SHOC (State Health Operations Center).

#### **Department of Labor and Economic Growth**

- The department is monitoring oil supplies and has been in contact with major oil companies to encourage them to reduce prices as rapidly as possible to correspond with improvements in the Midwest's supply situation.
- The Unemployment Agency has prepared a fact sheet listing the toll-free numbers for Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi for evacuees that need to apply for unemployment benefits in those states.
- Michigan Citizen Corps volunteers from Ingham and Eaton Counties are currently staffing the Michigan Hurricane Hotline (see Department of Community Health section for details).
- The MIOSHA has staff ready to provide safety and sanitary assessments, if needed.
- The MSHDA is ready to place evacuees into housing, as needed.
- The Bureau of Construction Codes and Fire Safety is coordinating the availability of fire personnel and equipment for mobilization to the State of Louisiana under the EMAC.

#### **Department of Management and Budget**

- The department is making a thousand bedding units available for use.
- The department can provide technical and procedural assistance with regard to the use of leased space, making repairs, developing and implementing recovery plans, etc.
- The department is reviewing its surplus property program to assess physical resource availability, if needed.
- Ten trucks and drivers were identified as available for use in materials transport. Some aircraft are also available (see DMVA entry below).
- The department is working with a state contract travel agent to create an inventory of Michigan hotels willing to provide free and discounted rooms to evacuees. Currently the inventory lists approximately 2,225 available rooms.
- The DMB access control crew is processing evacuees with 4 active stations (issuing identification badges) at Fort Custer in Battle Creek. To date, 260 evacuees have been processed.
- The department is coordinating with Departments of Corrections and Military and Veterans Affairs to address bedding needs for evacuees at Fort Custer.

#### **Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**

- Nearly 600 National Guard troops have been deployed to the disaster area.
- 1776 Military Police Company will be conducting security at Stennis Airport. They have 197 people and 47 HUMMV Vehicles.
- Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment 210<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion will be the command and control for the 46<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company. Both of the units will be conducting security in Alexandria, LA. The two units combined have 217 people and 55 HUMMV Vehicles.
- 1434<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster will be conducting water purification in Camp Shelby, MS. They have 21 people and five HUMMV Vehicles.
- Joint Forces Headquarters Michigan Counterdrug will be conducting light armored vehicle support in the New Orleans French Quarter. They have six people and two Light Armored Vehicles.
- G4 Logistics will support Law Enforcement. They have two people and one flat bed truck.

- 171 Airlift Squadron will conduct movement of Expeditionary Medical Equipment Deployable System's to New Orleans Area.
- 110 Fighter Wing/Construction Engineering will conduct construction engineering support in Jackson MS. They have five people.
- The 1460<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company is sending seven high-water vehicles, one wrecker, and one fueler to Hammond, Louisiana in support of a distribution of supplies and commodities from the regional staging area to various locations within the parish.
- The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has four C-130 aircraft prepared to mobilize to move evacuees. Each of these aircraft has the capacity to transport up to 90 persons.
- The department is coordinating with the Office of the Budget to arrange for funds to be provided for troop deployments.
- The department continues to actively review and respond (if appropriate) to EMAC requests from the affected states.

#### **Department of Natural Resources**

- The Department of Natural Resources deployed 50 conservation officers with 23 flat boats to Louisiana under an EMAC request. The officers were originally to be assigned to New Orleans but were then redirected to Gulfport, Mississippi to assist in search and rescue operations. Unfortunately, the DNR contingent was told upon arrival in Gulfport that they were not needed at this time and therefore has decided to return to Michigan.
- The department can assist the affected states with health assessments, should the capabilities of the Southeast Disease Cooperative require supplementing.

#### **Department of State Police**

- The Emergency Management Division is coordinating Michigan governmental activities, as well as providing liaison with local / nonprofit / private resources, governments in other states, and FEMA, through the State Emergency Operations Center.
- The Emergency Management Division is coordinating the development and implementation of the "Michigan Relocation Plan for Hurricane Katrina Evacuees."
- The Emergency Management Division has developed an "Evacuee Assistance Fast Facts" sheet identifying state and federal resources available to assist with the evacuees' needs.
- The Emergency Management Division is coordinating the state's efforts under the national Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). The EMD/MSP is working with other state and local agencies and organizations to review and meet EMAC requests for which Michigan has available resources.
- The MSP organized a statewide response to an EMAC request to send a cadre of law enforcement officers to Louisiana on Monday, September 5 to assist with law enforcement activities. A total of 92 officers from the MSP, county and local police departments are part of this deployment. A six-member Emergency Support Team with full equipment, a mobile command vehicle with communications capability, and a National Guard transport vehicle with sufficient supplies to sustain the officer for four days accompanied the convoy. A fuel truck also accompanied the convoy to ensure an uninterrupted fuel supply while traveling and conducting operations in the affected area.
- The Emergency Management Division is preparing regular Situation Reports that provide a summary of the state's involvement in ongoing or anticipated relief and recovery efforts.
- The MSP has forensic resources available to deploy to affected areas, upon request.

- The MSP can provide assistance in conducting background checks of individuals, as needed.
- The department is transporting medications from local health departments to Fort Custer.
- On September 9, the Emergency Management Division requested those jurisdictions who are deploying resources and/or residing Hurricane Katrina evacuees activate their local Emergency Operation Centers (EOCs) to coordinate information and activities among the SEOC and all state agencies as well as other agencies and organizations that they work with. The following EOCs were activated upon this request: Shiawassee County, Berrien County (partially activated), and Kalamazoo County.
- The Emergency Management Division established a Disaster Field Office (DFO) on September 9 at the Collins Rd. facility to work with local agencies and district coordinators to efficiently answer questions pertaining to Public Assistance.

### **Department of Transportation**

- The department is marshalling transportation services.
- The department has identified a half dozen major bus companies that are interested in cooperating with disaster relief and recovery activities. All charter bus companies in the state have been, or will be, contacted to determine capacity. In addition, there is the potential for motor vehicle manufacturers to identify extra / surplus vehicles that could be used in the disaster areas or for supporting roles related to such activities.
- The department has a 40-foot tractor trailer that can be used in relief and recovery activities. The vehicle includes bridge repair capabilities. The bridge repair rig is ready to mobilize.
- The department is providing waivers for oversized and overweight haulers responding to hurricane relief efforts. The waivers allow haulers to move during normally restricted hours.
- The department contracted with an oil company to haul fuel for the law enforcement convoy that was deployed to Louisiana to fill an EMAC request (see Department of State Police report above).
- The department hired a trucking company with flat bed trailers to haul 25 Department of Natural Resources ((DNR) boats to Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
- The department worked with the Battle Creek Transit Authority to coordinate transportation of evacuees from the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base to Fort Custer. (Note: this issue was later amended at the local level. School buses were used instead of transit resources.)
- The department is working with various state agencies on the development of a transportation assistance package for evacuees who get relocated to Michigan. The DOT is working with the Department of Management and Budget (DMB), Department of Human Services (DHS), and inter-city bus companies, transit agencies, Amtrak, and rental car companies on providing transportation services. In addition, the Department of Education is working with local school districts to catalogue excess school bus capacity, and the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has four C-130 aircraft prepared to mobilize to move evacuees. The DOT is standing by with alternative flight operators in the event they are needed to pick up evacuees. The transportation assistance package is being developed to meet the anticipated transportation needs of evacuees.

### **Department of Treasury**

- The department can provide assistance with financial management and support functions for other state agencies.

- The department is looking into the financial options available for Michigan students who may have been attending colleges in the affected disaster areas (i.e., to see about easing or forgiving loan requirements, for example).

**The Office of Services to the Aging (Department of Community Health)**

- The OSA is ready to consider requests for assistance, and notes that there is a congregate meal capacity available through the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and local service providers that can potentially be used to serve evacuees.